



St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School

We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord

8th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to keep you up to date with information relating to Covid-19. Guidelines from the government do develop and change over time. Where required this means our own processes may need to be adjusted, depending on the information we receive.

Thank you for your cooperation with our new systems and procedures, please do aim to arrive at your child's allocated time at the start and end of the school day as this really is important.

To reassure you; our class bubble system is working well and is ensuring that year groups do not mix. All classes are washing their hands as soon as they come in to school and after every break. Equipment used is sanitised and our cleaning routines have expanded to ensure the school environment is as safe as possible. We are following **ALL** government guidelines and will continue to do so with rigour.

Increasingly some parents and carers are asking how to differentiate the symptoms of Covid-19, flu and the common cold. I have attached a flow chart to help you to do this. As we enter autumn and move in to winter, we will experience the usual colds that occur during these seasons. Generally sore throats and runny noses are symptoms of the common cold and therefore it is still ok to send your child to school if they feel well enough. The symptoms of Coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

Children developing symptoms outside of school

If a child is displaying symptoms linked to Covid-19, it is important that they do not come to school. PLEASE NOTE THAT IF A CHILD IS DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS THEN ALL SIBLINGS MUST ALSO NOT COME INTO SCHOOL. The household should go into self-isolation and whoever in the family is displaying symptoms needs to have a test.

Children developing symptoms whilst in school

If a child displays symptoms whilst in school, we will move the child to our quarantine room. Your child will be supported during this time. We will contact you and it is important that you collect your child immediately. Families then need to take the child for a test as soon as possible. You will also be asked to take home any other siblings at the same time because they are part of the same household, regardless of whether they have any symptoms.

You must then keep school up to date with any outcomes. Once you get the test results it is important to contact school with the outcome of the test. We will then update you on the next steps.

Do other children in the year group bubble need to go home?

The rest of the year group bubble and staff will operate as normal until we receive an outcome of the test. If a test is confirmed as positive, then we are required to contact Public Health England for their advice and guidance. ONLY A CONFIRMED TEST WILL RESULT IN SCHOOL HAVING TO CLOSE DOWN YEAR GROUP BUBBLES. WE WILL COMMUNICATE WITH FAMILIES IF THIS IS THE CASE AND SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LENGTH OF ISOLATION FOR THE YEAR GROUP BUBBLE.

Reporting Absences

Please ensure that you contact school regarding your child's absence and inform school of the symptoms as to why they are absent from school. If your child displays any Coronavirus symptoms during weekends please organise for a test to take place immediately and inform school as soon as possible.

Thank you for all of your support and co-operation with these processes. As mentioned we will continue to keep you up to date.